

## **MAIN DIRECTIONS IN DEVELOPING CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS: THE CASE OF RUDNY INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE, KAZAKHSTAN**

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The Strategy "Kazakhstan-2050" notes the need to create a network of public-private partnership for the development of higher education system. In the State Programme of Education Development for 2011-2020 an important role is given for the interaction of universities with companies-employers. Significant efforts in this direction are being made by Rudny Industrial Institute.

Currently, the institute has gained some experience in the development of relations with big business. It's a very complex and long process, as all large company have a set of rules by which they create relationships with educational institutions.

Data Bank on work with employers includes more than 160 partner companies, including major mining companies (JSC "SSGPO", JSC "Donskoy GOK" JSC "Kostanay minerals"), construction companies (JSC "Rudnyysokolovstroy", JSC "Imstalcon"), energy companies (JSC "KEGOC") and others. Institute has concluded and implemented 94 long-term contracts with the corporate partners to carry out professional practices of students.

Undoubtedly, the biggest partner of the institute is the JSC "SSGPO", with which in 2013 Institute signed a memorandum on mutual cooperation and long-term contract for a joint practical training of students. The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan marked positive experience of cooperation of Rudny Industrial Institute with JSC "SSGPO" at an enlarged meeting held in March, 2013.

At present, the mining company successfully employs more than 2,500 graduates of the institute. Each year, more than 30% of graduates are employed; about 150 full-time and part-time students study on grants and scholarships offered by JSC "SSGPO".

With the support of experts from mining company every year improves forms and methods of work on organization and conduct of educational process. Joint meetings are held on a regular basis; the company's specialists are involved in the preparation of educational programmes of specialties, catalogs and directories of student's competence of elective subjects, they are invited to conduct lectures and practical exercises, act as managers and reviewers of diploma and course students' works.

To improve the quality of the educational process in the academic year of 2012-2013, the Institute organized evening classes, which not only accept applicants, but also carried out the transferring of students from distance education programmes. This initiative is widely supported in the Institute by JSC "SSGPO". The educational process of students is organized according to SES, classes are held 3-4 days a week in the evening, students are able successfully combine study in Institute with their employment.

Professional practice of students from all specialties of the Institute carried out starting from the second year. For all technical specialties duration of professional practice increased to 40%. JSC "SSGPO" - is the largest and most reliable base for the students of our institute. The company management provides venue for practices, appoints supervisors, directly controls the internship of students from the institute. In addition, 70 engineering students of the Institute form 2 and 3 courses are parallel trained on courses for getting working professions during summer practice in subdivisions of "SSGPO" free of charge.

As part of the University League of Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) Institute together with JSC "SSGPO" are responsible coordinators for security in the field of subsoil use.

There is a strong tendency of increasing the number of teachers of the institute, who annually are trained in the divisions of "SSGPO".

In order to improve the practical training of students and for the development of dual education there are 10 branches of Institute's departments which work in industry. Within branches of Institute's departments which work in the JSC "SSGPO" is carried out work on the formation of personnel reserve of the company through targeted training of specialists on educational programmes of a bachelor degree. In the current academic year, 45 students of the Institute defended their graduation projects in the divisions of "SSGPO".

As President Nursultan Nazarbayev states, the main task of the higher education sector in the planning period – is the active development of research activities. Currently, cooperation with the JSC "SSGPO" according to the partnership structure "education - science – innovation" has become a very specific shape.

The institute formed scientific schools, accumulated considerable experience in conducting research. The scientists of the Institute execute contractual work, fundamental and applied research in the framework of the state order of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Institute realizes extensive work on the modernization of science and laboratory facilities. In 2009 JSC "SSGPO" was donated to the institution teaching and research equipment for 10 million KZT. In 2013 with the support of JSC "SSGPO" Institute received charitable aid from the Corporate Fund "ERG Komek" for 20 million KZT. At present, a letter to the Corporate Fund "ERG Komek" was sent to obtain charity / sponsorship for the acquisition of teaching and laboratory equipment worth a total of about 15 million KZT.

Working with corporate partners Institute focuses on the employment of graduates. In the Alumni Career Day of RII – 2015 took part representatives from more than 30 enterprises and organizations of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Russian Federation, 8 companies presented their vacancies.

Pursuant to the official letter issued by the Ministry of Education and Science's Department of Higher and Postgraduate Education and International Cooperation as of the 1st of August, 2015, data on employment of graduates in 2014 was sent for verification to the State Centre for Pension Payments. At the end of 2014, the following information was received: 90% of graduates are employed, the employment of graduates of the Institute was 94%.

Considering a new course of our long-term strategic policy "Kazakhstan-2050", there are certain opportunities for the Institute and we are working on the development of modern technical specialties. Along with JSC "SSGPO" we have developed a project on creating Expert Council for Accreditation of Practical Skills of Students. Today's reality shows that partnership and collaboration is virtually the only opportunity for good quality changes. Isolated systems have no future – the key to success in the modern world are communication and partnership..